

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows, where the language that is underlined (“\_\_\_”) is being added and the language that is enclosed by brackets being deleted:

12. (Currently amended) The I/O interconnect system of claim 11, wherein the [[coupling element]] diffractive grating coupler is selected from a volume grating coupling element and a surface relief grating coupling element.

**FIGURES**

Please replace drawing sheets 2 of 8 and 5 of 8, representing FIGS. 4A through 4F and FIGS. 8 through 10, with the enclosed Substitute Sheets. FIGS. 4F and 9F have been amended to correct minor, unintentional errors.